

VIA U.S. EXPRESS MAIL EL629609372US  
PATENT  
80505.22

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Brian VICICH and Edward MESSER Serial No.: Currently unknown Filing Date: Concurrently herewith For: ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR HAVING A GROUND PLANE WITH INDEPENDENTLY CONFIGURABLE CONTACTS	Parent Appln. Serial No.: 09/863,960 Parent Filing Date: May 23, 2001
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Applications  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, and in recognition of their duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office relevant information known to be material to patentability, Applicants herewith submit herewith an Information Disclosure Statement (Form PTO-1449), which lists all the prior art references that were listed in the Parent Application No. 09/863,960, currently pending. Accordingly, a copy of these references can be found in the Parent Application No. 09/863,960, currently pending. In addition, Applicants submit copies of two (2) additional U.S. references 6,241,531 and 6,273,758.

The statement is not a representation that all of the information cited is necessarily effective as prior art against the application.

Applicants respectfully request that the disclosed references be made of record in the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 12, 2004

  
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**Complete if Known****INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **1** of **1**

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	<b>Brian R. VICICH</b>
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	<b>80505.22</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM -YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	1	5,429,528	07/04/95	Longueville et al.	
	2	6,039,583	03/21/00	Korsunsky et al.	
	3	5,411,415	05/02/95	Embo et al.	
	4	5,919,063	07/06/99	Wang	
	5	4,718,867	01/12/88	Seidel et al.	
	6	5,549,481	08/27/96	Morlion et al.	
	7	5,542,851	08/06/96	Chikano	
	8	5,456,616	10/10/95	Fuerst et al.	
	9	5,586,893	12/24/96	Mosquera	
	10	5,342,211	08/30/94	Broeksteeg	
	11	5,261,829	11/16/93	Fusselman et al.	
	12	4,602,832	07/29/86	Cunningham et al.	
	13	4,975,084	12/04/90	Fedder et al.	
	14	5,141,445	08/25/92	Little	
	15	5,174,770	12/29/02	Sasaki et al.	
	16	5,175,928	01/05/93	Grabbe	
	17	5,429,520	07/04/95	Morlion	
	18	5,527,740	06/18/96	Golwalkar et al.	
	19	5,597,326	01/28/97	DeLessert et al.	
	20	5,697,799	12/16/97	Consoli et al.	
	21	6,089,882	07/18/00	Costello	
	22	6,095,864	08/01/00	Yu et al.	
	23	6,241,531	06/05/01	Roath et al.	
	24	6,273,758	08/14/01	Loyd et al.	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM -YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number-Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether of not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Abstract is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.